



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/587,959	06/06/2000	Ari Ikonen		9612

7590
Clarence A Green
Perman & Green LLP
425 Post Road
Fairfield, CT 06430

01/16/2004

EXAMINER

SLOAN, NATHAN A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2614

DATE MAILED: 01/16/2004

12

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/587,959

Applicant(s)

IKONEN ET AL.

Examiner

Nathan A Sloan

Art Unit

2614

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 October 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-14 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection as necessitated by the amendment filed 10/22/03.

Claim Objections

2. Claim 17 objected to because of the following informalities: "turning" should be "turning" and there is a lack of antecedent basis for "the link module." Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1, 2, 4, 6, and 8-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bellamy (6,209,025) in view of Singkornrat et al. (6,128,484).

Bellamy (6,209,025) teaches an integrated video system.

With respect to claims 1, 8-10, 13, and 14, the claimed coupling device is met by enhanced set-top box 5, which allows attaching a PC 10 of Fig. 1 with keyboard (col. 7:18-21),

Art Unit: 2614

claimed "portable external device / mobile station with a user interface." PC 10 is allows integration of internet services with the television 1 to "extend the user interface." As seen in Fig. 1 television 1 has a "first input to receive a first information signal in a first format" via line 16. Enhanced set-top box 5 includes a "receiver to receive a second information signal in a second format from the portable external device" by receiving internet related video information from PC 10. Set top box 5 receives the "second information signal in a second format" from the PC 10, such as a pop-up window, over video link 8. This second information signal is converted into a "third information signal," such as a video program with the pop-up window overlaid on it and provided in the first format to TV (col. 5:50-62). Bellamy, however, does not teach that the second information signal is transmitted and received as "short range radio." Singkornrat et al. (6,128,484) teaches a system for transmitting RF signals to a television receiving unit 16 (Fig. 1) from a computer interface unit 14 as seen in Fig. 2. It would have been obvious for one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to modify the system and methods of Bellamy by using RF communication as taught by Singkornrat in order to avoid the nuisance of having a user run wires between the devices.

With respect to claim 2, the claimed "second input for receiving the first information signal to be relayed to the television device through said first output" is met by CATV cable 6 which inputs to enhanced set top box 5 for relaying to TV 1 through output 16.

With respect to claim 4, the claimed first output of the coupling device being an "antenna cable connector" is not taught by Bellamy. Singkornrat et al. (6,128,484) teach a remote coupling device and a television reception device 14 and 16 using antenna cable connectors as claimed. It would have been obvious for one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to use

Art Unit: 2614

an antenna connector in order to simplify system setup, prevent users from having to connect wires, and make the system portable.

With respect to claim 6, the claimed "coupling device comprises an internal power source," is not taught by Bellamy. Nevertheless, examiner notes that it is notoriously well known in the art for set top boxes to contain a power source. Examiner takes Official Notice that is well known in the art to provide a power source with a set-top box. It would have been obvious for one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to modify the system of Bellamy in view of Singkornrat by providing a power source in order to allow set-top box to properly function.

With respect to claims 11 and 12, the claimed "portable external device is detachably attachable to a television device" and "means for attaching said portable external device detachably to a television device" are met by line 16 which connects to television device 1 via line 16.

With respect to claim 15, Bellamy does not teach a rechargeable battery for the portable external device and a battery charger to recharge the portable external device at the coupling device. Examiner takes Official Notice that rechargeable batteries and battery chargers were notoriously well known in the art at the time of the invention. It would have been obvious for one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to modify the system of Bellamy by using rechargeable batteries and chargers in order to appeal to environment-friendly users.

With respect to claim 16, the claimed "first information signal comprising TV broadcast information" is met by CATV cable 6.

Art Unit: 2614

With respect to claim 17, the claimed “means for turning off circuitry providing unnecessary functions to save power when the link module is not needed to pass signals from the portable external device to the television device” is not taught by Bellamy. Examiner takes Official Notice that it was notoriously well known in the art at the time of the invention to include a power switch on devices. It would have been obvious for one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to modify the system of Bellamy by including a power switch in order to save costs associated with having the power constantly on.

Claim 18 is met by a keyboard as previously noted in response to claim 13.

With respect to claim 19, the claimed “first information signal comprising TV broadcast information” is met by CATV cable 6.

With respect to claims 20 and 21, the claimed mixer to mix the “first and third information signals so as to cause the television device to present information from both the first and third information signals together” is met as previously noted by overlaying information from PC 10 on the television broadcast signal for display.

2. Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bellamy (6,209,025) in view of Singkornrat et al. (6,128,484), and in further view of Allport (6,097,441).

Allport teaches a system with dual-display interaction with integrated television and internet content.

With respect to claim 7, the claimed “means for obtaining information from the first information signal” is met by Bellamy inherently by being able to obtain the signal and overlay information onto it as previously noted. In order to perform the overlay, at least video must be

Art Unit: 2614

obtained from the “information signal.” However, Bellamy does not teach transmitting this information to the portable external device. Allport teaches receiving primary and associated data at a base station unit (col. 9:45+) and transmitting associated data to a user hand-held device, claimed “external device.” Allport also teaches RF communications (col. 10:15-21), as does Singkornrat (previously noted), and it would have been obvious for one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to modify the system of Bellamy in view of Singkornrat by the teachings of Allport in order to provide extra information on a remote display for the enjoyment of viewers.

3. Claims 3 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bellamy (6,209,025) in view of Singkornrat et al. (6,128,484), and in further view of Bodle (GB 2,266,637).

With respect to claim 3, Bellamy does not teach that the claimed first output is a “SCART-connector.” Bodle teaches the use of SCART connectors for connecting a variety of audio-visual equipment on page 2, lines 3-17. It would have been obvious for one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to modify the system of Bellamy in view of Singkornrat by including a SCART connector as taught by Bodle in order to provide bi-directional connection of audio/visual signals amongst system components in European networks.

With respect to claim 5, the claimed coupling device comprising “a switch to disconnect the first information signal from said first output when the coupling device is communicating with said portable external device and to connect the first information signal to said first output when the coupling device is not communicating with said external portable device” is not explicitly taught by Bellamy. Bodle clearly teaches switched connectors for connecting a plurality of devices

Art Unit: 2614

using SCART sockets on page 8, lines 20+ and page 9 where a selected source is switched on, ie, a second input from a first output is connected and a separate source is disconnected. This may occur with a remote control device, television, vcr, and various other audio/video components as taught on pages 11-12 of Bodle. It would have been obvious for one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to modify the system of Bellamy in view of Singkornrat by including SCART connector switching means as taught by Bodle in order to perform disconnection and reconnection of plugs and sockets associated with audio and/or video components without the need for mechanical switching as taught on page 3, lines 19-27 of Bodle.

Conclusion

4. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Art Unit: 2614

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Raynesford et al. (6,219,109) teaches a remote control with direct TV operation that can transmit and receive video and raw data.

Diehl et al. (5,915,206) teaches a procedure for detection of SCART type connectors in a home systems network.


Perlman (6,530,085) teaches a configuration for enhanced entertainment system control.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nathan A Sloan whose telephone number is (703) 305-8143. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 7:30am - 6pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Miller can be reached on (703)305-4795. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-HELP.

NAS


JOHN MILLER
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600